

Abstract of the Disclosure

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REINFORCING
A LOAD BEARING MEMBER

In the design of load bearing members for use in work machines, it is oftentimes beneficial to minimize the weight of such structures which, in turn, may allow for increased payloads and decreased cycle times of the work machine. However, such lightweight structures may require additional support in specific areas to withstand an anticipated loading condition. The present invention provides a load bearing arrangement for use with a work machine of the type having a platform. At least one member is coupled to the platform and has a longitudinal axis, and at least one reinforcing structure is attached to the member at at least one identified failure-prone location.

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